



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

**FPS ARRESTS WOMAN FEDERAL EMPLOYEE
ON PROSTITUTION AND COMPUTER FRAUD CHARGES**
HHS employee allegedly used databases at work to help her prostitution business

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—A Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) federal employee was arrested on prostitution and other charges today by special agents and officers from the Federal Protective Service (FPS), HHS Inspector General, and the Kansas City, Mo., Police.

Candice G. Smith, 44, was arrested on a federal arrest warrant at her residence in Blue Springs, Mo., after a several-month-long multi-agency investigation. Her arrest followed a search warrant which was executed at her home yesterday.

Smith worked as a payment recovery specialist for the Center Medicare / Medicaid Services (CMS) with HHS, and used its federal computer systems to illegally gather information. According to the criminal complaint, Smith made unauthorized and illegal inquiries into the LexisNexis database.

LexisNexis is a data collection company that provides a database, such as credit history and driver's license information, to certain private and government agencies, after certain conditions of use are met. It can be used for law enforcement purposes. Smith, working as a prostitute, made LexisNexis database inquiries for personal reasons, and used the information to help avoid arrest and prosecution for her prostitution activities, according to the affidavit.

Smith allegedly queried LexisNexis for criminal history and other information relating to a prostitute she believed to be cooperating with law enforcement officers.

"Working for the federal government isn't a license to break the law and then avoid detection," said Wilfred Calvey, supervisory special agent for FPS Kansas City. "By closely working with the other law enforcement organizations we've been able to stop this illegal use of a private database, and put an end to a prostitution operation."

Smith faces multiple federal and state charges for prostitution, computer fraud, and other related offenses. She is currently held under the U.S. Marshals Service custody.

This indictment is an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeff Valenti. It was investigated by the Federal Protective Service, the Department of Health and Human Service - Office of Inspector General, and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

As an arm of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) under the Department of Homeland Security, FPS protects and secures over one million tenants and daily visitors at federal facilities nationwide. FPS has a workforce of 1,500 special agents, police officers, inspectors, and more than 10,000 contracted personnel.

This arrest represents our ongoing efforts to maintain safe and secure working environments for federal officials and the general public visiting federal properties.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.